Providing yam to handloom weavers in A.P.

3321. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any concrete steps to provide yam to handloom weavers of Andhra Pradesh at affordable rates and in sufficient quantities; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OFTEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has been implementing a scheme for arranging supply of yam to handloom weavers, at the prices at which it is available at the mill gate. This scheme is implemented throughout the country.

(b) The aforesaid scheme is implemented through the National Handloom Development Corporation Ltd. (NHDC), a Central Public Sector Undertaking. Under the scheme NHDC makes available all types of yam required by handloom weavers and their organizations against indents, at the price at which the yarn is available at the mill gate *i.e.* the place of manufacturing. Hence, the weavers do not have to bear the cost of transportation from the spinning mills. Thus, the yam becomes generally more affordable than if purchased from the local market. Under the scheme, NHDC has supplied 55.68 lakh kg yam worth Rs. 6265.40 lakh in Andhra Pradesh in the years 1995-96 to 2001-02 (up to February, 2002.)

Procurment of cotton by CCI

. 3322. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of cotton procured by Cotton Corporation of India from various cotton producting States during the current year, State-wise; and

(b) the total quantum of cotton exported as compared to procurement made by the Cotton Corporation of India during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) Quantum of cotton procured by Cotton Corporation of India during the current cotton year 2001-02 (October-September), State-wise, is as under:—